

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshihiro FUKUDA et al.                      Art Unit :  
Serial No.:    Examiner :  
Filed : (Herewith)  
Title : ELECTRICALLY DRIVEN POWER STEERING APPARATUS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to consideration of the above application, please amend the application as follows and consider the included remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as shown below. Marked-up versions of the amended claims are attached.

8. (Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 6, wherein said displacement limiter limits the predetermined or larger quantity of deformation of said elastic member at 40% or smaller of a maximum steering force exhibited by said motor.

9. (Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 6, wherein a natural oscillation frequency of a system constructed of said rotor, said ball screw nut and said elastic member is set to 7 Hz or higher.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION  
ATTY. DOCKET NO : 10122/005001

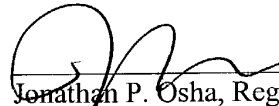
**REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. The claims have been amended solely to remove multiple dependencies. This removal is made both to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 and to reduce the additional costs of multiple dependent claims. These amendments are in no way related to issues of patentability.

Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 10122.005001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/6/02

  
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Marked-Up Version of the Claims

IN THE CLAIMS:

8. (Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through [7] 6, wherein said displacement limiter limits the predetermined or larger quantity of deformation of said elastic member at 40% or smaller of a maximum steering force exhibited by said motor.
9. (Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through [8] 6, wherein a natural oscillation frequency of a system constructed of said rotor, said ball screw nut and said elastic member is set to 7 Hz or higher.

